

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 2697

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By Mr. Koutoujian of Waltham, petition of Peter J. Koutoujian and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to public health policy initiatives and strategies to reduce incidents of suicide in the Commonwealth. Public Health.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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### PETITION OF:

Peter J. Koutoujian  
Scott P. Brown  
John W. Scibak

Mary E. Grant  
Stephen M. Brewer

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In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

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AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE STUDY ON METHODS TO REDUCE INCIDENTS OF SUICIDE.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

- 1     *Resolved*, That there is hereby established a special commission
- 2     to investigate and study the problem of suicide across the lifespan,
- 3     to consider innovative and coordinated measures to prevent and
- 4     reduce the incidence of suicide through prevention and public
- 5     health policy initiatives and strategies, and shall develop a state
- 6     plan to reduce the incidence of suicide and self harm.
- 7     Said special commission shall consist of 13 members,
- 8     including: three members of the Senate appointed by the Senate
- 9     President, one of whom shall be a member of the committee on
- 10    health care and one of whom shall be the minority leader or his
- 11    designee, three members of the House of Representatives
- 12    appointed by the Speaker, one of whom shall be a member of the
- 13    committee on health care and one of whom shall be the minority
- 14    leader or his designee, the commissioner of public health or his
- 15    designee, the commissioner of education or his designee, the com-
- 16    missioner of elder affairs or his designee, the commissioner of
- 17    mental health or his designee, the commissioner of public safety

18 or his designee, the commissioner of youth services or his  
19 designee and the attorney general or his designee.

20 Said commission shall be integrated under the auspices of the  
21 Massachusetts Violence Prevention Task Force and the Injury Pre-  
22 vention and Control Program of the Department of Public Health.

23 Said commission shall report to the General Court the results of  
24 its investigation and study, together with recommendations and  
25 drafts of legislation necessary to carry out said recommendations,  
26 by filing the same with the clerks of the House of Representative  
27 and the Senate on or before the first Wednesday in November,  
28 2003.